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| **Southern Sierra Criteria** | **Pass/Fail** | **Purpose of Question** | **Relation to State Criteria** |
| **Support for SOUTHERN SIERRA IRWMP.** *The project proponent must have formally adopted the plan.* | P/F | Demonstrates that the project proponent has formally adopted the IRWMP plan | * Adopted IRWMP Plan and Proof of formal adoption |
| **Implementation of the SOUTHERN SIERRA IRWMP.** *The project must address the values, goals, objectives and strategies identified in the IRWMP.* | P/F | To fund projects that directly support and further the implementation of the region’s water management goals and objectives. | * Consistency with IRWMP standards * Objectives * Priorities and Schedule * Impacts and Regional Benefits * Implementation |

| **Southern Sierra Question No.** | **Southern Sierra Criteria** | **Range of Points Possible** | **Scoring Standard** | **Purpose of Question** | **Relation to State Criteria** |
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| 1 | **Objectives.** Does the project contribute to IRWM Plan Objectives? | 1-10 | A higher score indicates that the project is expected to contribute to the achievement of more of the plan objectives. | Assists in prioritizing projects into the regional plan and ensures that the project will meet plan objectives | * Objectives * Priorities |
| 2 | **Resource Management Strategies.** How well does the project relate to the SSIRWM Plan Resource Management Strategies? | 1-10 | A higher score identifies a project that contributes to more resource management strategies that diversify the water and land management and conservation portfolios used to meet plan objectives, including projects that consider the amount, intensity, timing, quality and variability of runoff and recharge. | Ensures a diversity of resource management strategies are implemented towards fulfilling plan objectives | * Objectives * Resource Management Strategies * Integration |
| 3 | **Technical Feasibility.** Is the project based on a sound technical feasibility? | 1-5 | Higher scores indicate a thorough readiness to implement the project. Technical feasibility is related to knowledge of project location, water system, and geologic or hydrologic conditions. Lower scores could indicate gaps in data or information that could prevent a project’s success. | Evaluate readiness to proceed, project  feasibility, and obtain  documentation. | * Technical Analysis * Plan Performance and Monitoring |
| 4 | **Disadvantaged Community.** Does the project address critical water supply and quality needs of a “disadvantaged community” as defined by the State? | 1-10 | A score of one to three will reflect the projects benefits to the community.  A score of zero will be assigned if the project is not benefiting a disadvantaged community. | Identify projects that benefit disadvantaged  communities | * Disadvantaged   Communities   * Impacts and   Benefits   * Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits * Stakeholder Involvement * Coordination |
| 5 | **Native American Communities.** Are there specific benefits to Native American tribal communities? | 1-10 | A higher score will be assigned to those projects that include strategies for addressing critical water supply and water quality needs of Native American tribal communities. | Identifies projects that benefit Native American tribal communities | * Improve Tribal Water and Natural Resources * Impacts and Regional Benefits * Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits * Stakeholder Involvement * Coordination |
| 6 | **Environmental Justice Considerations.** Does the project provide consideration for environmental justice or equality? | 1-5 | A higher score would address the important considerations for the SSIRWM of inequitable distribution of pollution and access to clean water and air, parks, recreation, and nutritious foods. | Encourages the equal distribution of resources to ensure that environmental benefits are fairly distributed | * Impacts and Benefits * Water Management   Strategies and Integration   * Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits * Coordination |
| 7 | **Project Costs and Financing.** Are project costs documented? If so, what are they based on? | 1-10 | A higher score is based on documented project costs that are based on a feasibility study, conceptual idea, design, etc. | Determine if the project costs are within reason for this project | * Budget * Implementation * Financing |
| 8 | **Economic Feasibility.** Does the project describe a feasible program of financing for implementation of project? | 1-10 | Higher score based on documentation of firm financial commitments; clear resource commitments for ongoing monitoring, maintenance and operations; and a high percentage local match. | Evaluate readiness to proceed, clear financial commitments | * Financing * Budget * Implementation |
| 9 | **Project Status.** What is the status of the project? Is the project ready to proceed? | 1-10 | Higher scores would be assigned to projects that are implementable and well documented. Conceptual projects may also be included in the IRWM Plan because the planning horizon for an IRWM Plan is 20-years. Projects with low readiness may be developed or the RWMG may seek additional funding in order to develop the project to be ready. | Evaluates the readiness to proceed with a given project | * Technical Analysis * Relation to Local Water Planning * Relation to Local Land use Planning * Implementation |
| 10 | **Strategic Considerations.** Could a smaller/local project be strategically restructured to satisfy regional objectives? | 1-5 | The RWMG will review strategic considerations that may bring multiple benefit and greater integration to projects. In this way, local projects may be integrated for regional benefit and explaining when a single purpose project needs to be implemented in order to best implement an IRWM Plan. | Evaluate readiness to proceed, provide greater integration | * Implementation * Multiple Stakeholder Benefits * Coordination * Objectives |
| 11 | **Climate Change.** Does the project address the effects of climate change? | 1-10 | Higher scores will be given to projects that specifically will identify impacts of and contributions to climate change mitigation or resiliency; implement adaptive management strategies and techniques--as effects of climate change manifest, as new tools are developed, and as new information becomes available; or, reduce vulnerabilities to climate change effects. | Does the project contribute to regional and state goals of adaptation for climate change, monitoring methods and reducing vulnerabilities? | * Climate Change * Impacts and Benefits |
| 12 | **Greenhouse Gas Emissions.** Does the project contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions as compared to project alternatives? | 1-5 | Higher scores will be given to projects that, over the course of their life, will help the region lower GHG emissions, particularly synergistically in the energy and water sectors and contribute to regional sustainability. | Considerations such as energy efficiency and reduction of GHG emissions are important when choosing between project alternatives | * Mitigate Climate Change Impacts * Reduce GHG * Sustainability   Benefits |
| Total # of points (Out of 100) | **Projects will be determined based on scoring from the 12 questions above.** |  |  |  |  |